

NEWEST NOTES OF SCIENCE

For the first time in many years there was a decrease in the number of patents issued by Great Britain last year.

The new municipal laboratory at St. Petersburg is to be named for the celebrated Russian biologist, Netchukoff.

Nearly all the sapphires mined in the United States last year came from a single deposit in Ferguson County, Montana.

Strach will efface the stain of iodine in flesh, and, if used promptly enough, will prevent the liquid blistering.

The seat of a new dining room chair fits with easy tongue to form a high seat for a baby, complete with seat and tray.

The application of a little oil to the pivoted ends of umbrellas will prevent them rusting, and will lengthen their life.

Just about twice the quantity of gas was used for cooking and heating in the United States in 1908 and was used in 1907.

The five largest office buildings in New York there have been 3,300 miles of telephone wire and nearly 10,000 instruments.

The Glasgow fire department uses a motor vehicle and operated engines, one truck with 35-foot ladder and a first aid hose wagon.

The British Government is about to lay telephone cables under the English Channel to facilitate business between London and Paris.

When milk has been cooled to a temperature of 45° F. it may be kept for several days at any temperature less than 53 degrees.

England prohibits the use of wireless telegraph apparatus except under and in accordance with the license granted by the Postmaster General.

To relieve the transportation congestion of New York city it has been proposed to build monorails over the present elevated lines there.

New York ranked first, Alabama second and Pennsylvania third in the production of natural graphite last year, both as to quantity and value.

Vancouver's new dry dock, which will be able to handle 10,000 ton vessels, will be built in England and shipped to British Columbia in parts.

For finishing concrete floors a waxy substance has been invented in Germany which is applied with hot iron, giving a durable, dust-proof surface.

The United States imported 17,393 tons of manganese ore last year, and produced 6,144 tons, entirely from Virginia.

The exterior walls of the new Pennsylvania railroad station in New York are nearly half a mile long, and contain almost 400,000 cubic feet of granite.

The French Academy of Science has decided to confer a gold medal each year upon the aviator, French or foreign, whose achievement is most notable.

A street railway company at Brooklyn, N. Y., is saving its corroded poles by inserting reinforcing rods within them and filling in the bases with cement.

The Cape-to-Cairo railroad in Africa, when completed, will be the longest in the world, about 6,000 miles, and will have cost almost a billion of dollars.

The Department of Agriculture is experimenting with the manufacture of oil and alcohol from four varieties of heavy, starch-producing potatoes from Russia.

A short, stout saw, bearing a chisel at the end of the blade, and a pick at the back, is a handy ice-cutting utensil for household use recently invented.

Sanitary conditions in Berlin have been so much improved in the past 30 years that the average life of a resident is now nine years longer than it was in 1878.

Formic acid, obtained from crystallized oxalic acid and glycerol, heated together, is coming into extensive use in Germany in place of acetic acid in the dyeing trade.

A German firm will work the oil fields of Sakhalin, obtaining a capacity of 1,000,000 cases of kerosene and 1,000,000 cases of crude oil a year.

Electric light globes may be cheaply frosted or colored by dipping in a thin solution of white shellac and alcohol, to which may be added dye of any desired hue.

A fan recently patented in Paris is arranged to receive either real or artificial flowers in holes at the ends of the sticks, which make it resemble a bouquet when closed.

The Political Millennium.

Two Kansas farmers, one of them a Republican and the other a Democrat, were quarreling over their political beliefs. The more they argued the further apart they drifted. Finally they called in a neighbor to settle the dispute. This neighbor was a man who seldom said anything, who went about his business, was a good citizen and substantial in every way.

"Well," he replied after both had stated their sides, "my son and I have been hauling wheat nearly forty years now. There are two roads leading to this mill. One is the valley road and the other leads over the hill. But never yet has the miller asked me which road we came. He always asks, 'Is the wheat good?'"—Kansas City Journal.

Kumiss.

Kumiss is a valuable beverage for use in the sickroom. Heat one quart of milk to 75 degrees F., add one and one-half tablespoonsful of sugar and one-fourth of a yeast cake dissolved in one tablespoonful of lukewarm water. Fill sterilized bottles to within one and one-half inches of the top. Cork and shake. Place the bottles inverted where they will remain at a temperature of 70 degrees F. for ten hours, then put in the icebox or a cold place and let stand forty-eight hours, shaking occasionally to prevent the cream from clogging the mouth of the bottle. It is refreshing and nourishing.—Woman's Home Companion.

Firm Friends.

"Friendship, boys and girls," said a member of a provincial education committee, "is a thing to be cultivated and practiced by all of us. Read and ponder the stories of the great friendships of sacred and profane history. Take them for your models. David and Jonathan, Damon and Pythias and Scylla and Charybdis."—London Telegraph.

Plenty of Jaw.

Two cockney "ladies" were discussing each other publicly. One said something about the other's "jaw" or "jore." "Garn," answered her opponent, "you've got enough jaw for two sets of teeth, you 'ave."

Theory and Practice.

Gerardine: A rose by any other name would smell as sweet. Gerald: I have never been able to make you believe it when I brought you flowers.—New York Press.

We rise in glory as we sink in pride.

Young.

CHEVY CHASE.

The Old Rodgers Mansion and the Famous Washington Club.

Doubtless few of the many thousands of persons who have read of Chevy Chase have any idea of the interesting history attached to the clubhouse and surroundings. Part of the old colonial structure as it stands today was erected in 1747 and from that time until a few years ago remained in the Rodgers family. In the year of 1812, when the British were advancing on Washington, the army and navy records were taken from the White House and secreted in the cellar of the Rodgers mansion, where they were kept for several days.

The Rodgers family has been famous in the American navy, no fewer than seven having served as admirals. The estate consisted of something like 200 acres, and as the beautifying of the property was always a hobby of its owners it is not surprising that unusual taste should have been shown in laying it out. It is a fact that there are 105 varieties of trees and bushes to be found within a stone's throw of the clubhouse. Not far from the present fourth green there was once a sunken garden, but this is scarcely more than a memory now.

The Chevy Chase club took possession in 1888 and at first rented the property from the Rodgers estate, but later the club purchased 200 acres. Several horse shows have been conducted on the property, and some years back the regular old fashioned county fairs were popular there. The membership consists of persons prominent in Washington socially. It is only half an hour's ride from the treasury to the door of the clubhouse.—Exchange.

True Thrift.

"When visiting a certain town in the north of England," says a medical man, "I was told of an extraordinary incident wherein the main cause, an economical household, exhibited under trying circumstances, a trait quite characteristic of her. It seems that she had by mistake taken a quantity of poison—mercurial poison—the antidote for which, as all should know, comprises the whites of eggs. When this antidote was being administered, the order for which the unfortunate lady had overheard, she managed to murmur, although almost unconscious: 'Mary, Mary! Save the yolks for the puddings!'"—London Tit-Bits.

Scientific.

"Mary Ellen, why is it you are always stealing your gold eyeglasses and the steel ones stick on your nose as though glue were used?"

"Can't you guess why?"

"Not unless it's a sign that riches are fleeting and the poor you have always with you."

"Not at all. There is nothing allegorical about it. The reason is just scientific. It's my magnetic attraction, that's all."—New York Sun.

A metal pole, if unprotected when planted in the ground, will corrode seriously in about ten years.

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